AMENDMENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of improving alphabetic speech recognition, comprising:

receiving an initial input comprising a first keypad entry of plural alphabetic characters using a dual-tone multi-frequency (DTMF) key tone for each of the characters;

playing back the keypad entry to the user and querying the user to determine whether the entered keypad character input is correct; and

if input received from the user indicates that the keypad entry played back to the user does not match the entered keypad character input:

loading a speech recognition grammar associated with possible alphabetic character combinations that correspond to the DTMF character input by the user;

prompting the user to speak the previously-entered alphabetic characters <u>without receiving an additional keypad entry of plural alphabetic characters using a DTMF key tone for each character</u>;

receiving and recognizing user speech with the loaded speech recognition grammar; and

prompting the user to verify an identified character string as a correct character string.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, further comprising a set of alphabetic characters including the characters a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, and z.

4. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 3, wherein the alphabetic character input received from the user includes one or more alphabetic characters from the set of alphabetic characters of Claim 3.

5. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 4, wherein the set of alphabetic characters further includes phonetic versions of the alphabetic characters of Claim 4 associated with prompting the user to verify an identified character string.

6. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 5, wherein the alphabetic character input received from the user includes plural alphabetic characters from the set of alphabetic characters of Claim 5.

7. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 6, wherein the alphabetic character input received from the user includes one or more combinations of alphabetic characters from the set of alphabetic characters of Claim 6.

8. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 3, wherein the set of alphabetic characters includes numerals associated with DTMF key tones from a telephone keypad.

9. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 8, wherein the alphabetic character input

received from the user includes one or more DTMF key tones.

10. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 9, wherein numerals associated with DTMF

key tones of a telephone keypad include 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

11. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 10, wherein the set of alphabetic characters

includes all alphabetic characters associated with the DTMF key tones.

12. – 23.   (Cancelled)